

POMPIDOU CITES PAST AMITY TO NEW ENVOY

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[Excerpts] President George Pompidou said today that the differences of opinion between France and Israel are over the method to be adopted in solving the Middle East problem. He said all the countries in the area have the right to live in peace within secure and recognized borders, but they must renounce territories conquered by force. Pompidou was speaking upon receiving the credentials of our new ambassador in Paris, Asher Ben-Natan.

He added that there are close ties between France and Israel on the basis of mutual understanding and interests. Pompidou said: We stress the right of every country in the area to live in peace within secure and recognized borders and defended from threats and violent activities.

Ben-Natan said the viewpoints are sometimes different, and there are differences in examining the problems, but there is also a tradition of cooperation between Israel and France.

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